

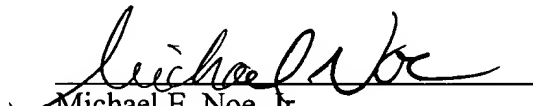
REMARKS

Applicant certainly appreciates the allowance of Claims 1 – 4 and 7. Applicant has added a new **Figure 5** (attached) to overcome the objection to the drawings cited on page 2, paragraph 2 of the present office action.

With regard to independent Claims 8 and 13, Applicant has added the language of canceled Claims 10 and 15, respectively. The language of those claims contains an element that clearly distinguishes *Boutaghou* and *Hipwell*. For example, Claim 8 now requires "each of which [the shock-absorbing protrusions] is located along an entire length of a respective one of the lateral edges of the top surface of the supporting structure" (underline added). *Boutaghou* only has protrusions adjacent (but not in) its corners. They do not extend along the entire length of the lateral edges. *Hipwell* has a cap that is located on its leading and trailing edges in addition to its lateral edges. *Hipwell* cannot satisfy Claim 8 since Claim 8 requires "each of" the shock-absorbing protrusions to be located along the lateral edges. The leading and trailing edge caps are not on the lateral edges. Similarly, Claim 13 states that, "each of the shock-absorbing protrusions is located and extends along an entire length of a respective one of the lateral edges of the top surface of the supporting structure." Neither of these claims nor Claim 9 is anticipated by the prior art and are now allowable.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance and favorable action is requested. No fee for an extension of time or other fees are believed to be required. However, in the event that one or more fees are required, please charge them to **Hitachi Deposit Account Number 50-2587**.

Respectfully submitted,


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